that such policies of the Banks should be simple, transparent and non-discriminatory, so as to accord equal treatment to the borrowers. Banks are not required to report all such individual cases to RBI.

Investments by Indian and foreign insurance companies

2394. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money invested by the Indian insurance companies in social sector like building infrastructure, transport, road, medical sector, education and other welfare schemes etc.;

(b) the amount of money invested by foreign insurance companies into insurance business and the profit they have earned till now;

(c) the amount of money invested by foreign insurance companies in social sectors as has been invested by Indian insurance companies alongwith the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has informed that Indian Insurance Companies have invested Rs. 80,151 crore in the infrastructure sector upto 31st March 2008.

(b) to (d) A foreign insurance company cannot set up insurance operations in India on its own. They can set up operations in India only as joint ventures with Indian promoters and their stake in the venture cannot exceed 26% of the paid up capital of such joint venture insurance company.

The cumulative investment made as foreign direct investment in the equity share capital of life and non life insurance companies by the foreign joint venture partners is Rs. 3,314.88 crore as on March 31, 2008.

There being no foreign insurance companies operating in India, the question of profit earned and money invested by foreign insurance companies in social sectors in India does not arise.

Guaranteeing bank deposits by Governments

†2395. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that keeping in view the severe international crisis, Governments of various countries of the world have proclaimed guarantee for the amount of the depositors deposited in banks;

(b) if so, the names of the countries where Governments have made such announcement;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government felt the necessity to assure the depositors in India also; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the concrete steps taken by Government for trust?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) To assuage the excessive reactions to the current financial crisis, some countries announced guarantee for bank deposits for a short period and earmarked funds for the purpose. Even though the banking system continued to be sound and resilient, some governments decided to take precautionary action to avoid an erosion of banks' deposit base and ensure a level playing field for banks in their jurisdiction. Some of the countries which have taken such steps include United States of America, United Kingdom, Denmark, Germany, Austria, Sweden, Greece, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Hong-Kong, Australia, New Zealand, etc.

(c) and (d) In India, the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) has been extending insurance cover to small depositors with an objective of maintaining the confidence of small investors in the banking system of the country as also promoting financial stability. The number of registered insured banks as no October 2008 was 2,354 comprising 78 commercial banks, 92 RRBs, 4 LABs and 2, 180 co-operative banks. Indian depositors enjoy a high degree of protection. About 93 per cent of deposit accounts and 61 per cent of total assessable deposits were fully protected at end-March 2008, which is more than the IMF's recommended limits of 80-90 per cent and 20 per cent, respectively. Further, to ensure a healthier banking sector in India and to protect the interests of the stakeholders and the depositors of the banks, the Reserve Bank of India has prescribed measures for strengthening of risk based prudential supervision, introduction of capital adequacy standards on the line of Basel Committee norms, etc. coupled with wide ranging steps taken by the Government.

External aid to India

2396. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the size of total external aid committed to India at present giving the break-up in terms of sources; and

(b) what has been the disbursement ratio during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) The required information is given below:-

Donors	Commit-ment	Disburse-ment	Commit-ment Ratio	Disburse-ment	Commit-ment	Disburse-ment Ratio
	2006-2007			2007-2008		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Asian Development Bank	6908.03	4415.74	63.92	6731.08	4993.10	74.18